Misappropriation of Funds

1432. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an allegation of misappropriation of funds in construction of staff quarters in Gaya Telecom. district Gaya (Bihar);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The question does not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of Pedestrian Over-Bridge

1433. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pedestrian overbridge on Ram Ghat Road Railway crossing in Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh has since been constructed;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the pedestrian overbridge on the aforesaid place is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) One pedestrian over bridge already exists at a distance of 55 metres from existing level crossing No. 109-A near Aligarh Railway Station. Hence, another pedestrian over bridge in proximity is not justified.

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

[English]

Advertisement Scheme on Post Cards

1434. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the income of the Postal Department earned from advertisement scheme on post cards, etc. during the first quarter of the current financial year; and

(b) the estimated additional income expected out of increase in cost of post cards in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The revenue earned by the Department from Advertisement Scheme on post cards etc. during first quarter of current year is Rs. 57 lakhs.

(b) The estimated additional income out of increase in the cost of post card in the current year is Rs. 4.52 crores.

Exchange of Programme between China and India

1435. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for extending coorperation in Television Network and exchange of programmes between India and China;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard;

(d) if so, the salient features of such agreement; and

(e) by when this agreement is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Doordarshan has signed an agreement of mutual cooperation with China Central Television on 2nd June, 1997 which, inter-alia envisages exchange of programmes relating to news, sports, entertainment, economic development, cultural activities, children and science and technology.

(e) The agreement is already in force.

Shortage of Wagons

1436. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that acute shortage of Railway Wagons have affected the movement of foodgrains to Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir; there has been no shortage of railway wagons. However, unloading problems on the part of Food Corporation of India affected movement of foodgrains.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of Seismology Research Laboratory

1437. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director of Council of Science and Technology, Madhya Pradesh had proposed in 1993